



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Teton  
National Park

PO Box 170  
Moose, Wyoming 83012

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs  
307 739-3393 (fax 739-3419)

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## Grand Teton National Park News Release

### **RANGERS RESCUE INJURED HIKER IN CASCADE CANYON**

Grand Teton National Park rangers initiated the second major rescue of the day when they responded to a report of an injured hiker in Cascade Canyon at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 3. Dave Fales, age 30 from Cody, Wyoming, was solo hiking when he fell, severely injuring his right ankle. Fales, a physically disabled man with a prosthetic left leg, was unable to hike further because he sustained serious injury to his right leg. Other hikers on the trail encountered the injured Fales and reported the mishap to a park ranger on backcountry patrol in the area.

The park's contract helicopter shuttled four park rangers to an open area helispot near the forks of Cascade Canyon. Rangers reached Fales' location in the South Fork of Cascade Canyon at 2:45 p.m. After assessing the patient's condition and providing emergency medical care, rangers placed Fales on a wheeled litter and transported him approximately 2 miles to the helispot. Fales was flown directly to Lupine Meadows where he was then taken by park ambulance to St. John's Medical Center.

Due to his physical disability, Fales used the assistance of a service dog to help him get around. Although pets are not allowed in the park's backcountry, use of a service animal by an individual with a disability is allowed according to federal regulations outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act. Fales' service dog companion was taken to the Teton County animal shelter for temporary care until Fales is released from the hospital.

This incident marks the fifth major search and rescue operation in the park this year.

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